



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARTHAGE, ASHLAND MEN INDICTED FOR METH CONSPIRACY, FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Carthage, Mo., man and two Ashland, Mo., men were indicted by a federal grand jury today for participating in a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine and violating federal firearms laws.

Johnnie D. Dethrow, 30, and **Somer C. Newland**, 21, both of Ashland, and **David M. Nanos**, 43, of Carthage, were charged in a five-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that all three defendants participated in a conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine from May 11, 2002, to May 11, 2003.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that all three defendants, aiding and abetting each other, were in possession of pseudoephedrine, knowing it would be used to manufacture methamphetamine, on May 11, 2003.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Dethrow** and **Nanos**, aiding and abetting each other, carried a Glock .40-caliber handgun during and in relation to the drug trafficking crime alleged in Count Two.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Dethrow** was a felon in possession of a firearm – the Glock .40-caliber handgun – on May 11, 2003. Under federal statute, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Dethrow** has a 1997 criminal felony conviction for burglary, a 1996 criminal felony conviction for possession of burglary tools, a 1991 criminal felony conviction for stealing, a 1985 criminal felony conviction for burglary, and a 1983 criminal felony conviction for robbery.

Count Five of the federal indictment alleges that **Nanos** was a felon in possession of a firearm – the Glock .40-caliber handgun – on May 11, 2003. Under federal statute, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Nanos** has prior criminal felony convictions for forgery, theft, bringing contraband into a penal institution, possession of a controlled substance, burglary, and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. Connelly. It was investigated by the Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow